







SO, DO YOU PLAN
ON GOING IN?
OR BLOWING
IT UP?

WHAT!?

ANYONE WHO STARES AT A
BUILDING THAT LONG
CAN'T HAVE
ANY GOOD
FEELINGS
OR
INTENTIONS
TOWARDS
IT.

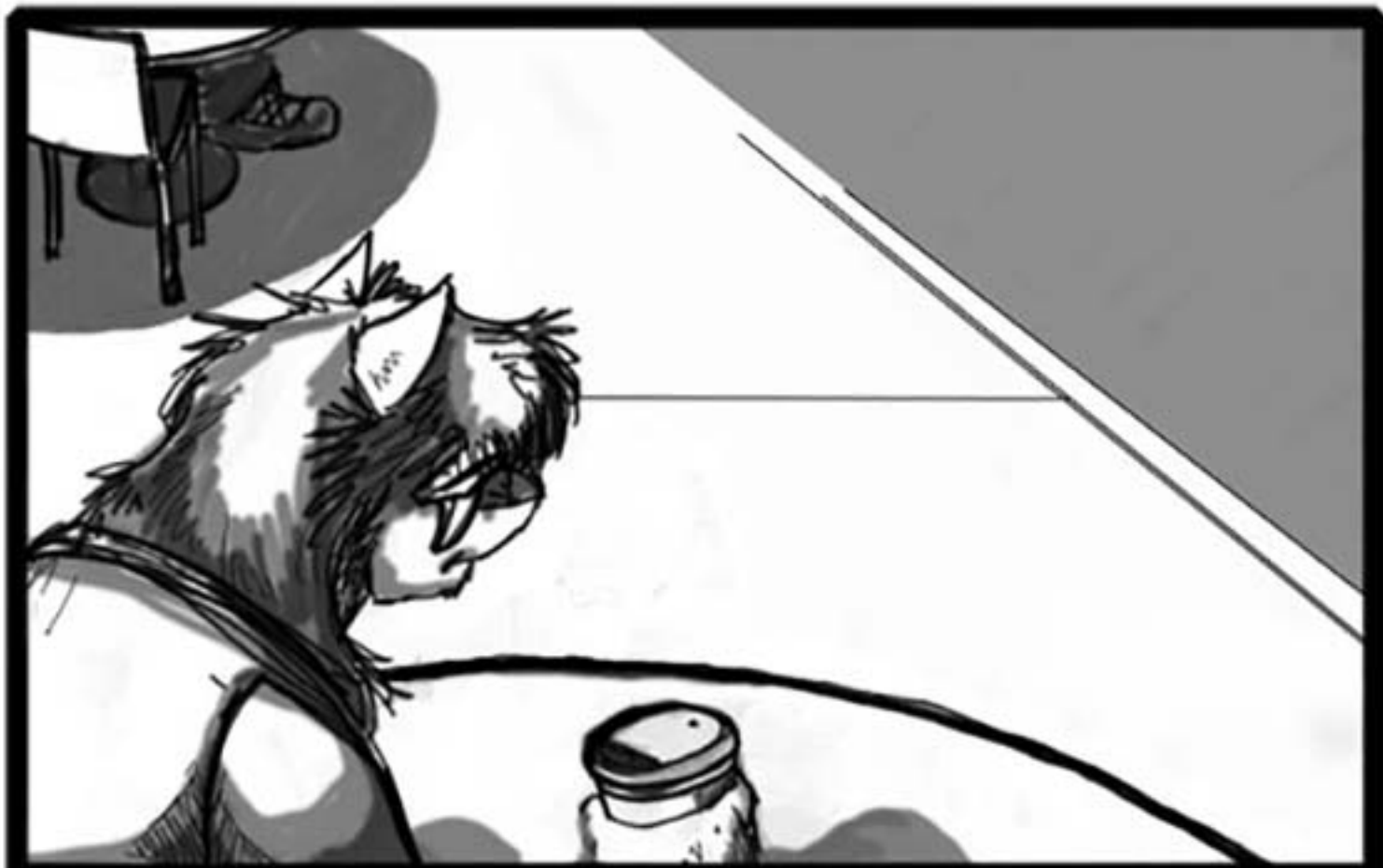
SO, I FIGURE
YOU EITHER
WANT TO GO
IN BUT RESENT
IT, OR
HATE THE
GAYS AND
WANT TO
BLOW
IT UP.

YOU'VE
BEEN
COMING
HERE FOR
THREE
DAYS, JUST
TO STARE.

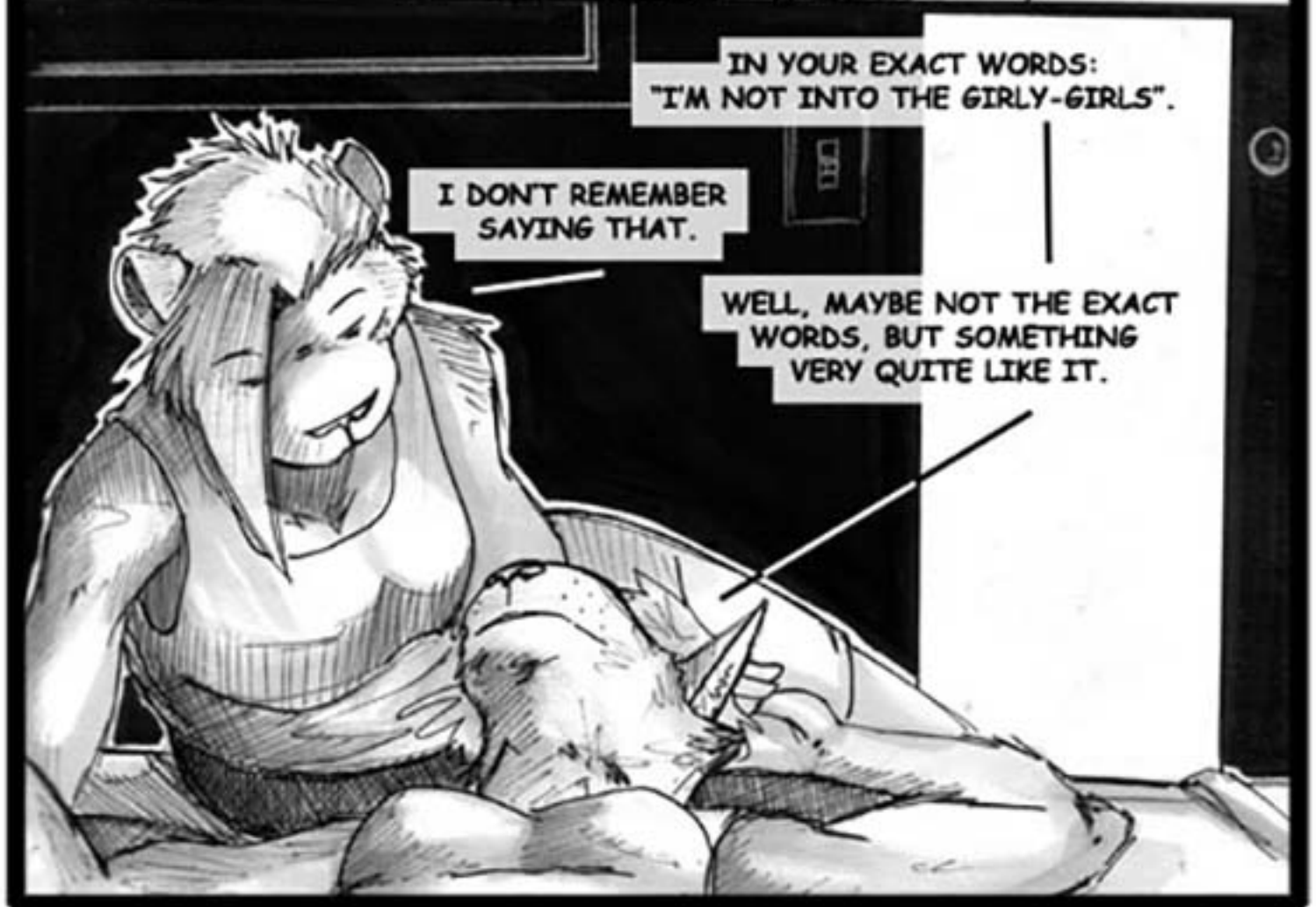
YOU WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST ONE.
I SEE A LOT OF GUYS HERE THAT
LOOK AT THAT BUILDING
LIKE THAT.











WELL I GUESS
I DID SAY
SOMETHING LIKE
THAT... AND I
HAVE TO BE
HONEST, I DID
MEAN IT
TO SOME
DEGREE.



OH REALLY?
IS IT SOME KIND
OF PROTEST AGAINST
FEMININITY?

HEH, NO
NOT AT ALL



I WAS JUST TOO
MUCH INTO THE HORRIBLE
MINDSET OF WHAT
IT MEANS TO BE
A DYKE. BUT NOW I TAKE
IT BACK. IT WAS KIND OF
STUPID.

SO DOES THAT MEAN THAT
I'LL GET YOU TO WEAR A SKIRT?



WELL, I DON'T THINK
THAT MY BODY WAS
MEANT FOR SKIRTS.



BUT I GUESS I WOULD DO IT
JUST ONCE OR TWICE TO PLEASE
YOU.

YOU SPOIL ME



I GUESS IT'S TO SHOW YOU
THAT I HAVE MORE THAN
ONE FACE TOO.



I MEAN, THAT I'M NOT AS
CLOSED MINDED AS I CAME
OFF TO BE AT FIRST.

I NEVER THOUGHT THAT
OF YOU.



I AM
GLAD
THAT
YOU
DON'T

IT WOULD BE A SHAME
IF THAT IDEA EVER
STUCK ON YOU.

LISTEN TO ME.

BEFORE I MET YOU I USED TO
SPEND TIME WITH A LOT
OF PEOPLE IN THE BARS THAT
WOULD JUST PUT
DOWN ANYONE THAT
WAS FEMME. SAYING THAT
BEING BUTCH WAS THE ONLY
REAL WAY TO BE
A LESBIAN. I GUESS
I ENDED UP SOAKING
MORE OF THAT BULL-SHIT
THAN I THOUGHT.

I LIKE YOU THOUGH.
GIRLY OR NOT.

WHAT IF I DECIDE TO START
WEARING MAKE-UP AND A BRA?



I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO START
PAINTING MY NAILS AND
WALKING ON HEELS.



I THINK I'M
FALLING IN
LOVE WITH
YOU.

AND IT IS
NOT YOUR
APPEARANCE
THAT I
LOVE.

I'M
STARTING
TO THINK
IT NEVER
WAS.

SO
WHATEVER
YOU WEAR
ON THE OUTSIDE
DOESN'T MATTER
TO ME.

JUST KEEP
MAKING ME
SMILE.



I CAN ONLY
PROMISE YOU
THAT I WILL
ALWAYS TRY.

DAY 1



LILA? YOU THERE?



YEAH I'M, HERE.
THOUGHT YOU WERE
ASLEEP ALREADY.

MENU

WEB

WAS ABOUT TO GO. COULDN'T SLEEP.
FELT LIKE I NEEDED TO TALK TO YOU.



DO YOU STILL SLEEP
NAKED?

CAN I SEE?

MENU

WEB

HEH, STILL
THE SAME LILA
I KNOW AND LOVE.



SO? CAN I SEE?

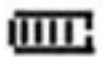
=)

MENU

WEB



HOPE YOU
LIKE THEM.



NICE. YOU STILL
LOOK JUST LIKE
I REMEMBER
YOU.

MENU

WEB



YOU DO SEEM TO
HAVE GAINED
A LITTLE BIT
OF WEIGHT
AROUND THE
BELLY.

MENU

WEB



YEAH, HAVENT
EXACTLY BEEN
HITTING THE
GYM.

SO?
DO I
GET ONE
TOO?



NO WAY! WHAT
IF YOUR FRIENDS
SEE IT?

MENU

WEB

DOUBT THEY
WOULD CARE.
MOST OF
THEM
ARE GAY.



GAY? YOU HANG
AROUND THOSE TYPE
OF PEOPLE?

MENU

WEB

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?
MY FRIENDS
ARE FUN.



SURE; JUST BE
CAREFUL. I DON'T
WANT TO FIND OUT
RANDOMLY ONE DAY,
THAT YOU WENT
FAG.

MENU

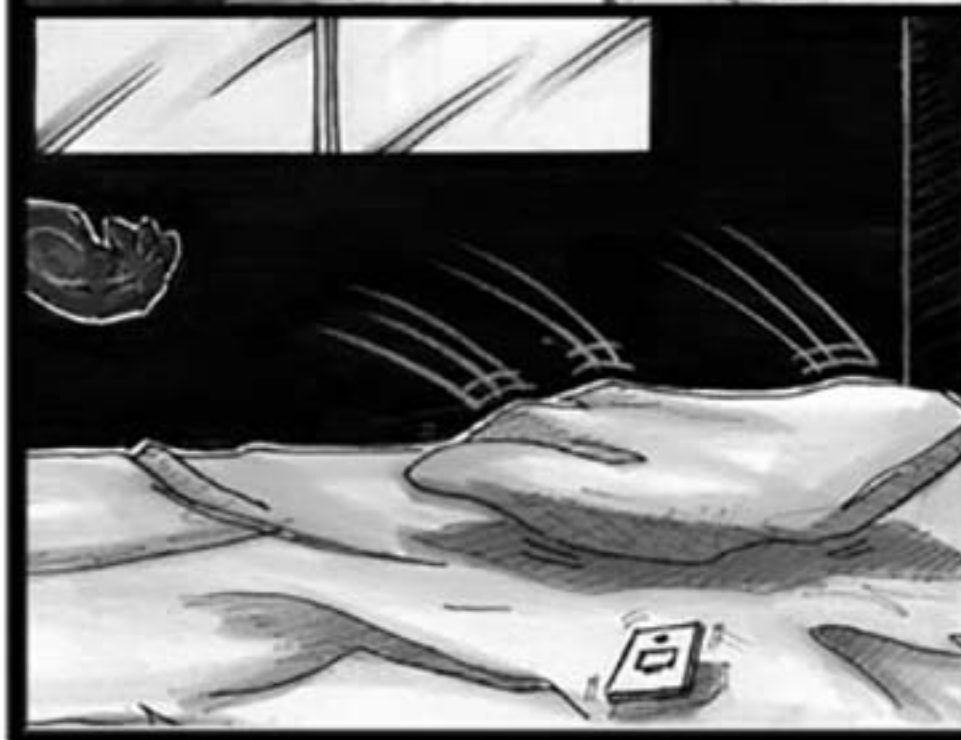
WEB

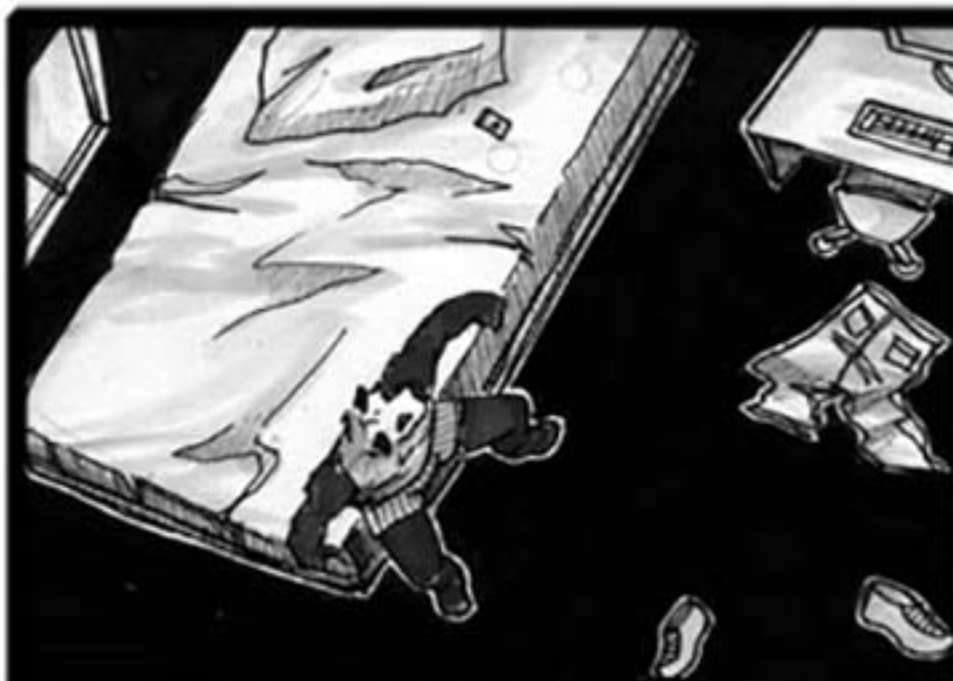


I CAN'T EVEN
BEGIN TO THINK
OF IT. IT WOULD
SHAME ME FOREVER.
YOU AND ANOTHER
MAN, IT'S
DISGUSTING.

MENU

WEB







HEY THERE
HANDSOME.
WHAT ARE
YOU UP TO
TONIGHT?

OH NOTHING
IMPORTANT. JUST
SIFTING THROUGH
MY OLD YEARBOOK.
WHT DO YOU
ASK?

JUST WANTED TO KNOW IF I WOULD
BE INTERRUPTING ANYTHING
IMPORTANT. WOULDN'T WANT TO
DISTRACT YOU.

NO, NOT AT ALL,
FEEL FREE TO DISTRACT
ME ANY TIME YOU WANT,
PUPPY.

IF YOU SAY SO...



SO? WHAT ARE YOU DOING
LOOKING AT YOUR OLD
YEARBOOK?

I
KEEPING AN EYE OUT
FOR AN OLD FLING?



ACTUALLY, I WAS.
WELL, IT'S HARD
TO EXPLAIN. I
KIND OF ALMOST
CHEATED
ON YOU
WITH
THIS
GUY.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

"KIND OF CHEATED"?

DEFINE
"KIND OF".



WELL, NOTHING REALLY HAPPENED,
IF THAT IS WHAT YOU REALLY
WANT TO KNOW. IT'S KIND OF
FUNNY, HE ALWAYS HAD A CRUSH
ON ME, AND WE JUST HAPPENED
TO BUMP INTO EACHOTHER AT THE
SAUNA IN THE GYM. SO WE WERE
NAKED. SOME FONDLING HAPPENED,
BUT NOTHING MORE THAN
THAT.

I
I TURNED HIM DOWN
AFTER I REALIZED HOW MUCH
I MISSED YOU.

THAT WAS
PRETTY MUCH IT.
I KNOW IT WAS
WRONG,
AND I THOUGHT
I SHOULD
TELL YOU.







AND TRUST ME,
I PLAN ON ENJOYING
EVERY SINGLE MINUTE
I HAVE WITH YOU.

AND FOR FUTHER
REFERENCE, IF YOU EVER
WANT TO, YOU KNOW,
BRING SOMENONE TO
THE PARTY, JUST ASK
ME FIRST, OR TAKE
GOOD PICTURES.

YOU THINK THAT'S
FUNNY MY LITTLE FUZZBALL?

HA HA HAI

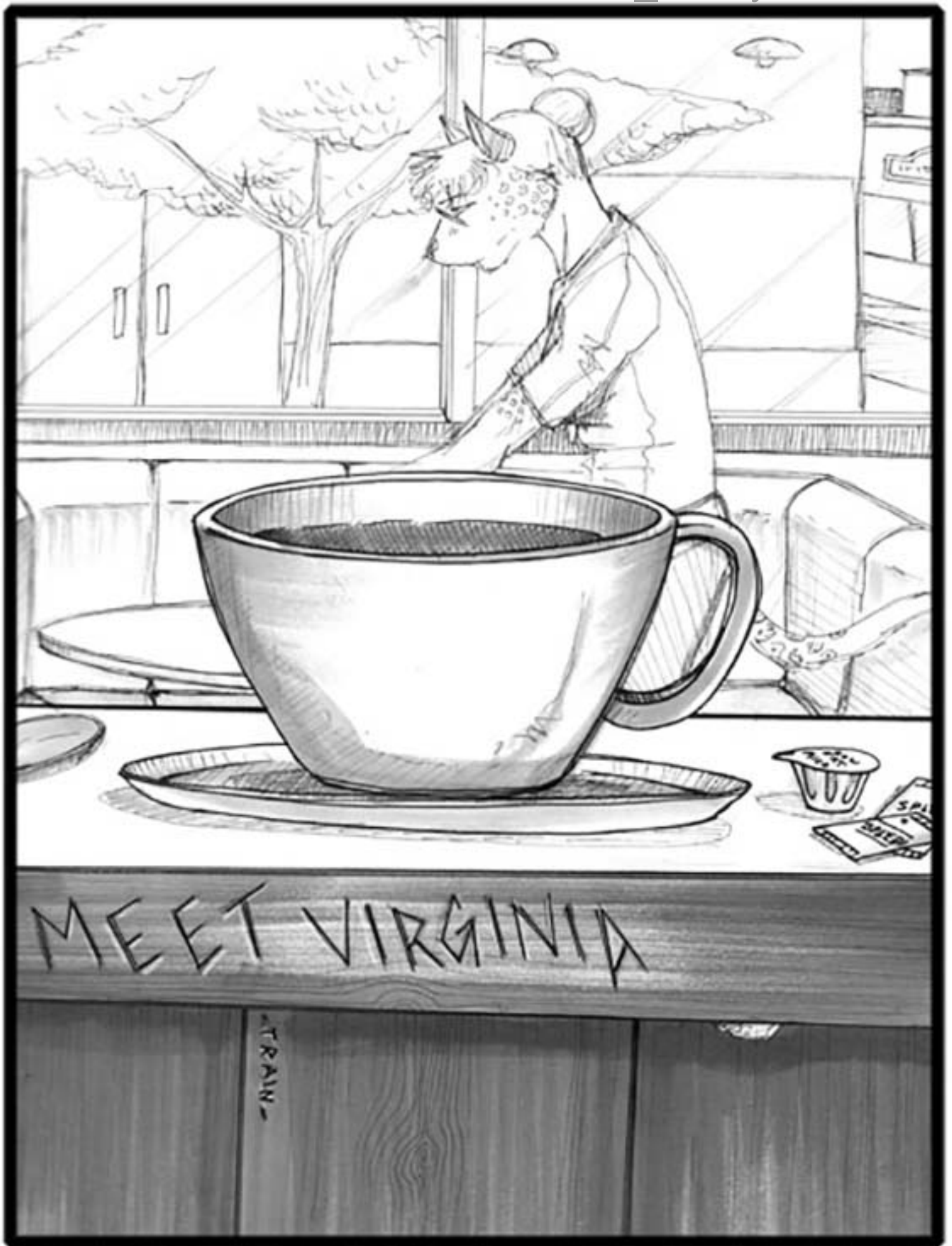
SINCE WHEN DO YOU CALL
ME FUZZBALL?

SINCE NOW

UGH...
I'M GOING TO HAVE
TO FIX THAT.

I LOVE YOU







HEY THERE HON.

SORRY
TO HAVE KEPT YOU
WAITING.

IT'S BEEN
A WEIRD DAY.

WEIRD?

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BE WEIRD
ABOUT IT? OUT OF ALL THE PLACES
IN LOS ANGELES TO BE WEIRD
— THIS DOESN'T STRIKE ME
AS ONE OF THEM?

WELL, I DID SAY THAT THE DAY WAS
WEIRD, NOT THE PLACE. THE DINNER ITSELF
IS FILLED WITH THE SAME SORT OF DRAMA
AS IT ALWAYS HAS,

IT WAS A WEIRD
DAY BECAUSE I
FOUND OUT THAT
THE OWNERS
ARE PLANNING
ON SELLING.

NO WAY, YOU HAVE TO
BE PULLING MY LEG.

SERIOUSLY.
IT SEEMS
THAT THEY
ARE NOT
DOING TOO
WELL.

THEY APPARENTLY
BOUGHT A LOT
OF PROPERTY
BEFORE THE
ECONOMY
BEGAN TO
GO DOWN
THE
CRAPPER
AND NOW
THEY ARE
HAVING
TO SELL
A LOT
OF THEIR
ASSETS
IN
ORDER
TO
STAY
IN THE
GREEN.

WOW, YOU'RE ACTUALLY
SERIOUS. AREN'T YOU
WORRIED?

SORT OF.
BUT NOT
BECAUSE THE
PLACE IS
GETTING
SOLD.

I WANT TO BUY THE PLACE
THAT'S WHAT I'M
WORRYING
ABOUT.

I AM
SERIOUSLY
CONSIDERING
PUTTING
AN OFFER
FOR THE PLACE.

WOW, ISN'T THAT GOING
TO TAKE A CONSIDERABLE
AMMOUNT OF MONEY?

WELL, YEAH, BUT I
HAVE THE ADVANTAGE THAT
THE OWNERS KNOW AND
LIKE ME.

IF I MAKE THEM A DECENT OFFER
I THINK THEY WOULD SELL IT TO ME
OVER SOMEONE ELSE, SIMPLY BECAUSE
THEY KNOW THAT I WOULD TAKE GOOD
CARE OF THEIR RESTAURANT.

SO WHY ARE
YOU WORRIED?



AND THAT
IF IT DOES
NOT GO WELL
I WILL BE
COMPLETELY
BROKE.

I'VE NEVER
BEEN A BURDEN
TO ANYONE. I HAVE
WORKED FOR EVERYTHING
I HAVE. AND THE THOUGHT
OF POSSIBLY LOOSING IT ALL...

WELL IT SENDS
SHIVERS
DOWN MY
SPINE TO
SAY THE
LEAST.

SO I WANTED
TO TALK TO YOU,
BECAUSE I
CAN'T DO
IT ALONE.

IN CASE ANYTHING
FAILS.

AWW. YOU ARE
SO CUTE
WHEN
YOU
ARE
DEFENSELESS

OUT OF THE
TWO OF US,
YOU ARE THE
ONE WITH THE
COMMON SENSE.
YOU ARE FRUGAL AND
VERY CAREFUL WITH
YOUR MONEY. AND YOU
ARE NOT STUPID. IF YOU
THINK THAT IT'S A GOOD
INVESTMENT, DO IT.

YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
THANK YOU.
IT REALLY MEANS
A LOT TO ME.

AND I PROMISE THAT I WILL
DO MY BEST TO MAKE THIS
PLACE A SUCCESS. AND I WILL
TRY TO MANAGE SPENDING
MORE TIME WITH YOU.



HEH, WELL, THINK OF IT THIS
WAY. IF IT FAILS, YOU WILL DEFINITELY
BE SPENDING MORE TIME WITH ME. I WILL
BE THE MAN OF THE HOUSE, AND YOU WILL
DO THE DISHES! HAHAHAA!

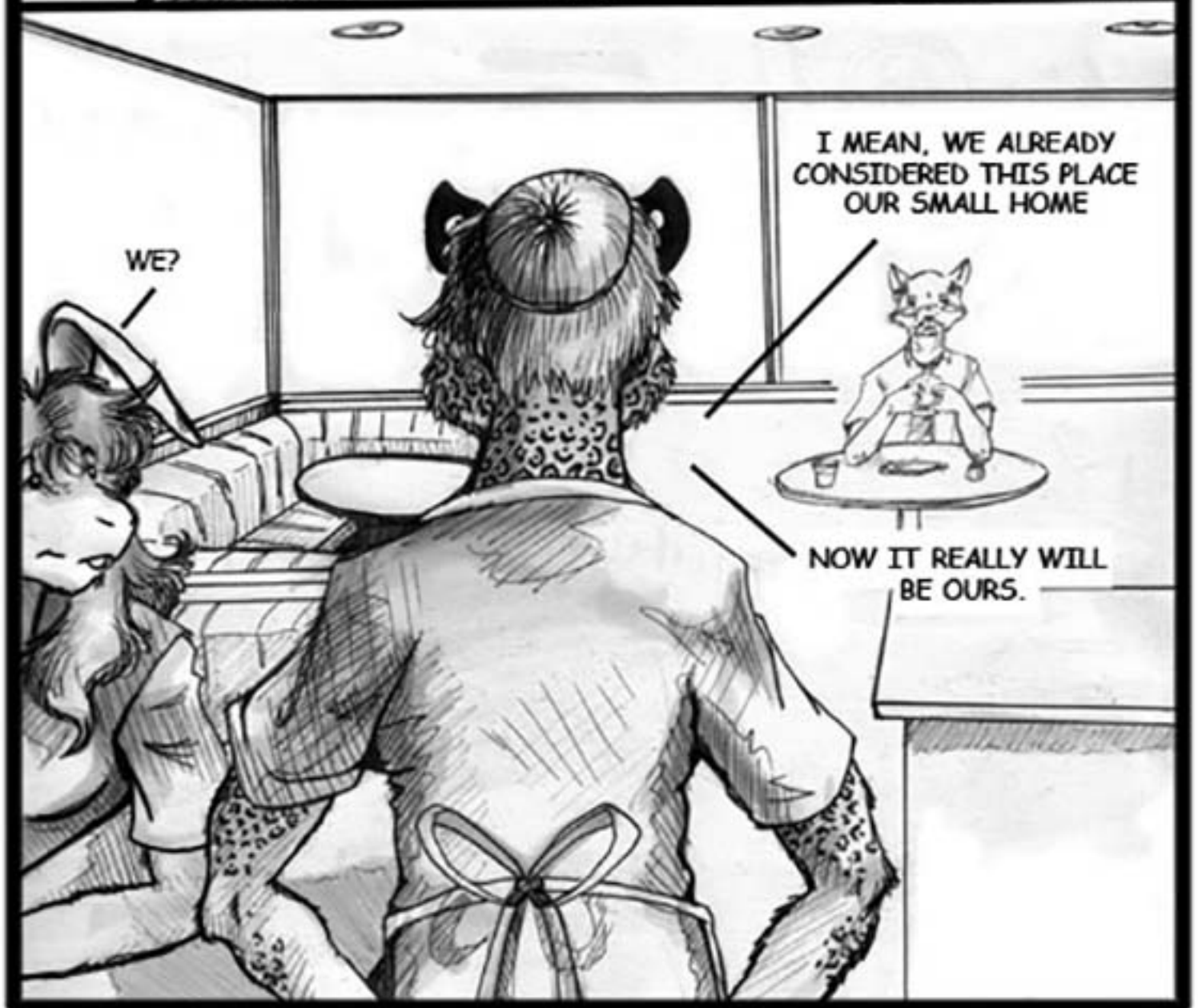


I AM STARTING
TO RE-THINK THIS...

YOU KNOW I AM
KIDDING.

THANK YOU.

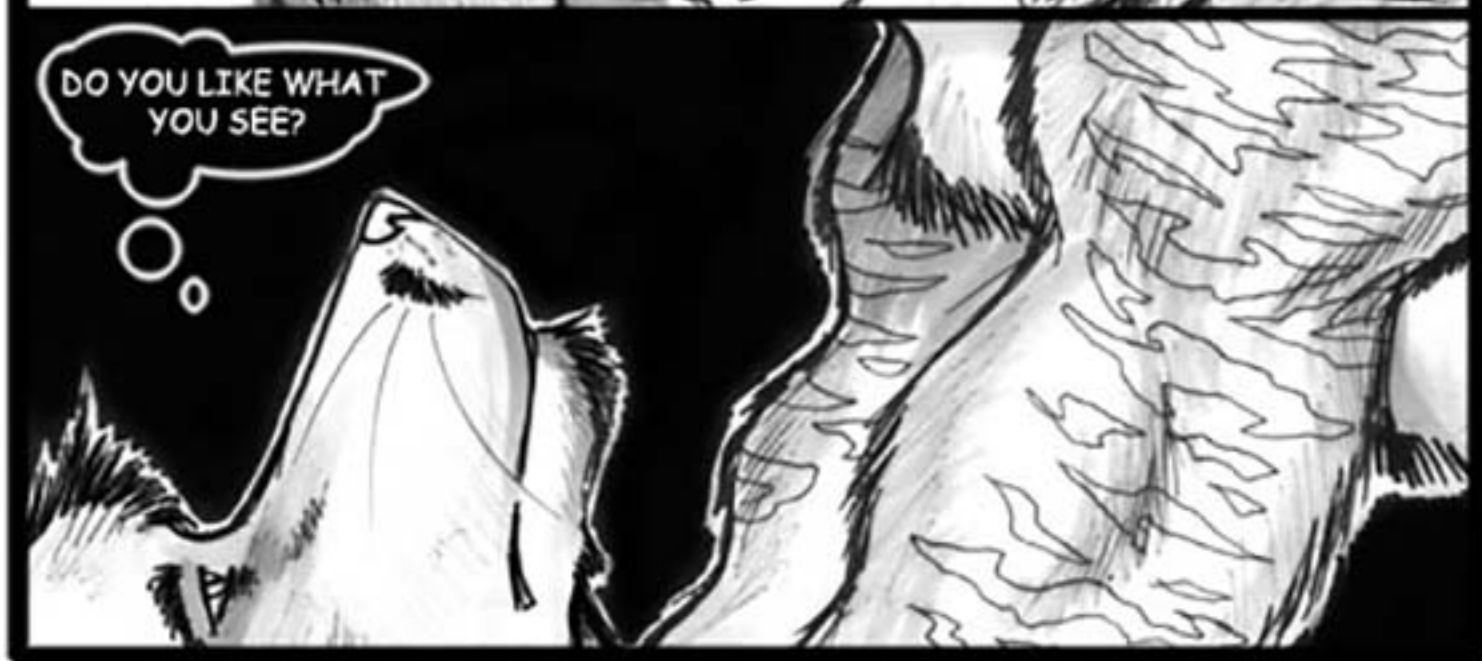




RIPCHORD

RILLO KILEY





DO YOU
LIKE
WHAT
YOU
ARE
SEEING?



YOU SILLY
LITTLE
FAGGOT.



STOP!
STOP!
GET OFF ME!



WHAT?
ARE YOU
OK?

DID I DO
SOMETHING
WRONG?



I DONT
UNDESTAND.



WHAT?

I WANT TO STAY.

I WANT TO
STAY HERE WITH
YOU.

ONE-NIGHT
STANDS
DON'T
USUALLY
WORK
LIKE
THIS.

WELL... MAYBE IT
DOESN'T HAVE TO BE
ONE.

WE COULD
JUST SLEEP.
NOTHING
MORE.

THIS
BED SEEMS
TOO BIG
FOR JUST
ONE
PERSON.

BEING ALONE REALLY SUCKS.
YOU START WONDERING IF
THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG
WITH YOU, THAT CAUSES THE
WORLD TO REJECT YOU.
IT'S A NASTY THOUGHT.



I KNOW, I'VE BEEN THERE BEFORE.
DIDN'T LIKE IT.



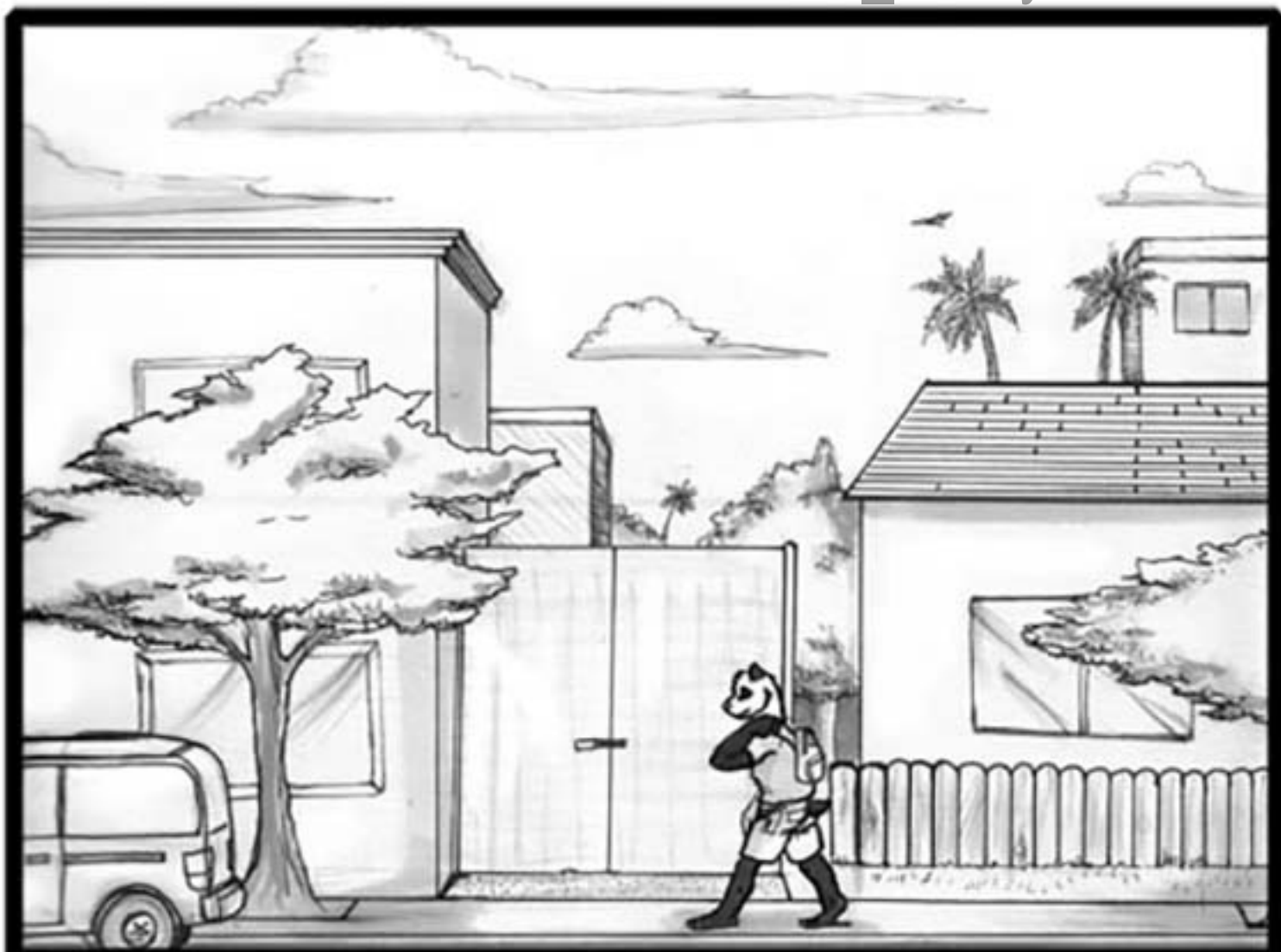
IT GETS COLD HERE
AT NIGHT.
I SHOULD GET
A BLANKET.



THANK YOU FOR
LETTING
ME STAY.

I REALLY
DON'T LIKE
BEING ALONE.
I THINK
THAT THE
COMPANY
WOULD
HELP.

THANK YOU FOR NOT JUST
LEAVING ME.





YOU HAVE BEEN
AVOIDING MY CALLS,
AND IGNORING
MY TEXT MESSAGES.

MENU

WEB



I'M STARTING
TO THINK THAT
YOU DON'T
LOVE ME
ANYMORE.

MENU

WEB



I'M REALLY SORRY
THAT I SAID
SOMETHING
BAD ABOUT YOUR
FRIENDS. I
REALIZE NOW
THAT THEY MEAN
A LOT TO YOU.

MENU

WEB



I REALLY LOVE YOU,
BUT I DO REALIZE
THAT I AM NOT
THERE TO KEEP YOU
COMPANY. AND THEY
ARE.

MENU

WEB



I ALSO REALIZE
THAT WHAT I SAID
WAS WRONG. BUT
YOU HAVE TO
ADMIT THAT WHERE
I AM, IT IS
THE ONLY WAY TO
SEE IT.

MENU

WEB



I WISH THAT YOU
COULD TELL ME
THAT YOU ARE
OK. I MISS
TALKING TO YOU.
I REALLY DO.

MENU

WEB

HELLO THERE.

HI CHRIS, IT'S NICE
TO HEAR YOUR VOICE
AGAIN. I NEED TO KNOW
IF YOU ARE STILL
MAD AT ME.

YEAH, I AM
STILL VERY MAD
AT YOU. AND I DON'T
THINK YOU EVEN KNOW
WHY.



NO, I KNOW WHY YOU
ARE MAD. I KNOW YOU
VERY WELL, IT'S
BECAUSE I SAID
THOSE THINGS ABOUT
YOUR FRIENDS. I JUST
KNOW IT.

NO... WELL, YEAH!
BUT IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF
THEM, IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU.
I NEVER THOUGHT
THAT YOU WOULD DO THAT LILA.

IN MY EYES YOU WERE THE
PERFECT WOMAN.
ALWAYS KIND AND
ALWAYS BRIGHT.



I GUESS I AM DISAPPOINTED
IN YOU. I NEVER KNEW THAT
YOU COULD BE SO
HATEFUL. I NEVER
SAW THAT IN YOU.

THAT'S TOO EASY, YOU CAN'T
JUST BLAME IT ON THEM. IT
IS YOU. I EXPECTED YOU TO BE
BETTER THAN THAT.

BUT CHRIS, YOU KNOW
THAT IT'S WRONG
YOU KNOW THAT IT'S
A SIN. WE BOTH HAVE
KNOWN THIS SINCE
WE WERE KIDS. YOU
KNOW WHAT THE
PARISH WILL SAY.

BETTER THAN THAT?
BETTER THAN THE WORD
OF OUR LORD? HOW CAN
I BE BETTER THAN THE
LORD, CHRIS?



YOU KNOW IT'S NOT ABOUT THAT.
YOU KNOW WHY I AM MAD.

THEN WHY?
EXPLAIN IT TO ME?
BECAUSE I KNOW
WHERE I STAND
WHEN IT COMES
TO GAYS.

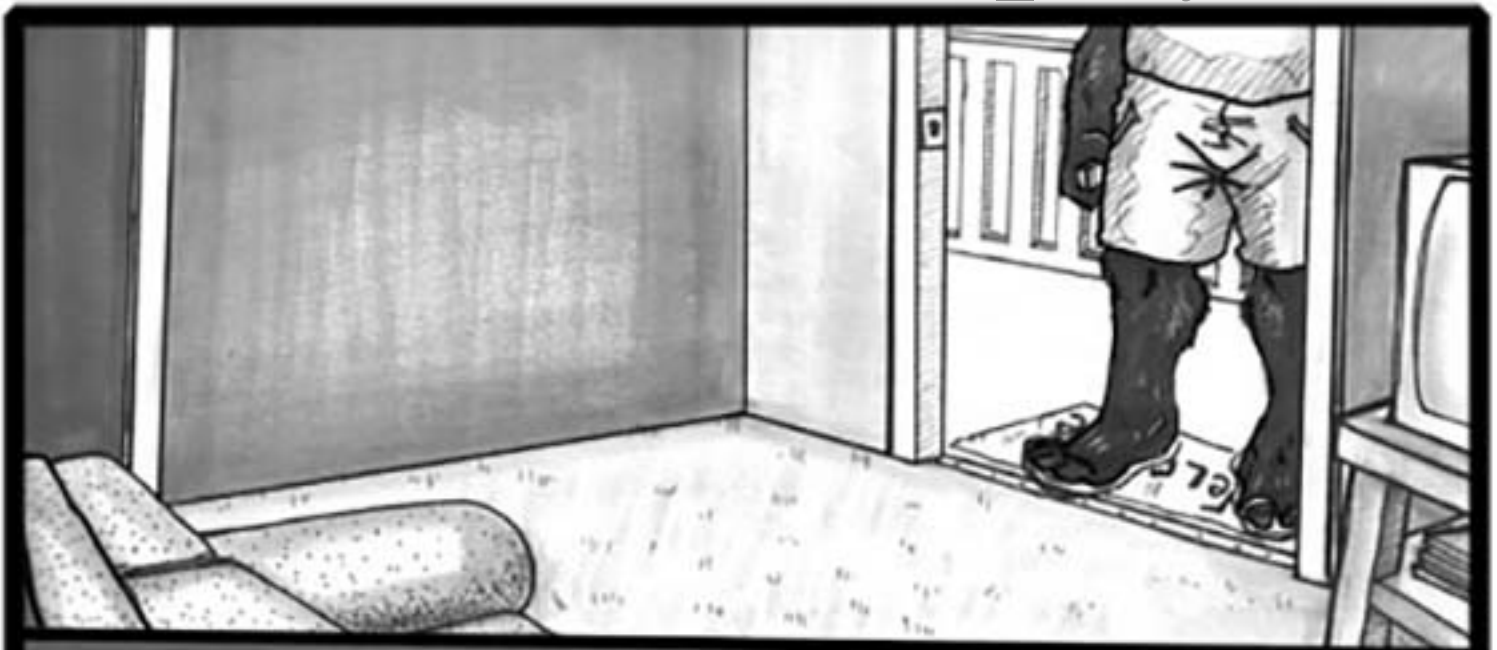
LILA, WHEN WAS
THE LAST TIME
YOU STONED A
CHILD? OR
PUNISHED
YOURSELF FOR
EATING CLAMS?

I KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING
WITH THIS, AND IT'S NOT FAIR.

AND YOU KNOW I AM
RIGHT. IF WE TAKE
EVERYTHING THE BOOK
SAYS LITTERALLY. THEN
WE ARE ALL SINNERS
AND DAMMED TO HELL.

YOU NEVER DID ANSWER THAT
QUESTION. HAVE YOU EVER DONE
ANYTHING LIKE THAT?









A LOT BETTER THAN HAVING
TO WONDER IF I AM
GOING TO GET TO
SEE YOU IN THERE.

YOU KNOW, IT FEELS
GREAT TO COME
OUT HERE WITH YOU.

IT HAS BEEN A VERY
LONG TIME SINCE
I HAVE FELT
HAPPY LIKE
THIS.





WOW. I THINK
YOU GAVE ME
GOOSEBUMPS.



I AM PRETTY GOOD AT DOING
THAT. AND I KNOW YOU LIKE
IT. IT IS YOUR WEAKNESS.



HA
HA
HA



— YEAH.
BUT YOU
MUST NEVER
TELL A SOUL.
ONLY TWO
PEOPLE KNOW
IT.



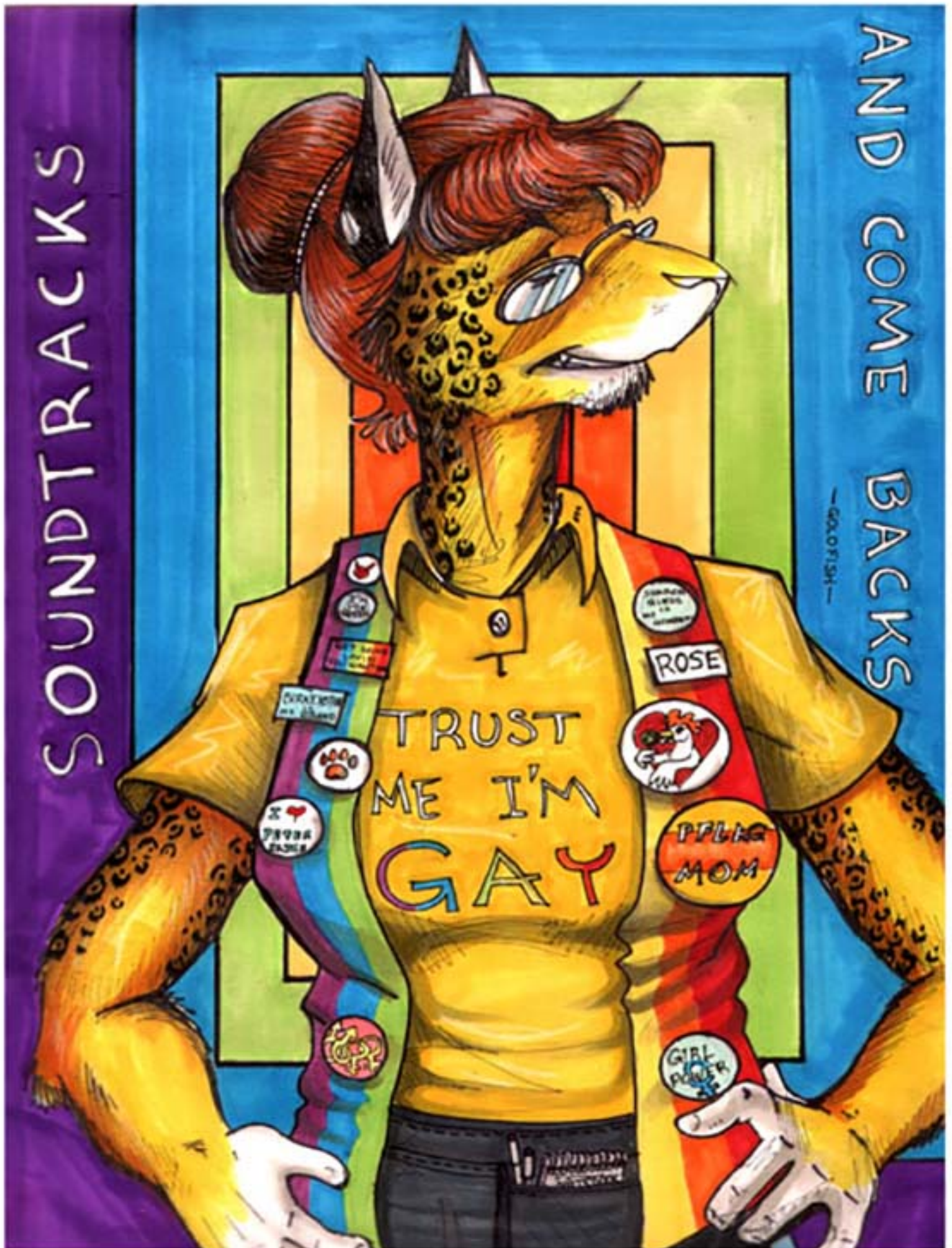






NO MATTER WHICH WAY YOU SEE IT, IT
REALLY WAS HER LOSS.

ONLY A FOOL LEAVES REAL GOLD TO
SEARCH FOR FABLED DIAMONDS.





THE SMELL, THE SIGHT, THE SOUNDS.
ALL OF IT PART OF MY KINGDOM.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.



MY KINGDOM!

IT FEELS SOO GOOD TO SAY THAT.
BEING THE OWNER OF THIS
PLACE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.



SIGH



OH YEAH, MY KINGDOM.



ROSE!

HEY! LONG TIME
NO SEE!



HUH?
HEY GUYS!

HI HONEY, WE'RE HOME.





WELL TECHNICALLY I AM GOING
TO HAVE TO GIVE
CREDIT TO
LOUIS FOR THE
IDEA.
/ SHE WAS THE
ONE WHO
THOUGHT
THAT
WEARING
THIS
COSTUME
WOULD
BE
FUN.



AND SHE WAS RIGHT! I CAN SPEAK
MY MIND, AND EVERYONE
THINKS THAT IT'S
ALL PART OF THE
ACT! IN FACT, WE
ARE GETTING MORE
PEOPLE HERE AT
NIGHT BECAUSE OF
IT.



SO, HOW
ABOUT A
HUG?

AS LONG AS
YOU DON'T
START SMACKING
ME ON THE
BACK OF THE
HEAD.


I MAKE
NO
PROMISES.



HEHEHEI


IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU GUYS AGAIN, WHY DON'T
YOU SIT AT THE BAR, I'LL GET YOU SOME
COFFEE.






SO, DO
YOU BRING
NEWS OF
THE
OUTSIDE
WORLD?

I HAVE NOT HAD
MUCH TIME FOR
ANYTHING SINCE
I TOOK OVER
THIS PLACE.



I
PRACTI-
CALLY
LIVE
HERE.



WELL, YOU WILL BE HAPPY TO KNOW THAT
I MANAGED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH OUR
LOST GIRLS. I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH
TIME TO GET INTO DETAILS, THEY BOTH
SAID THAT THEY WERE BUSY, BUT AT LEAST
NOW I KNOW THAT THEY ARE ALRIGHT.

IT WAS ANNOYING THAT I ONLY
TALKED TO THEM OVER THE
PHONE. I WOULD RATHER
HAVE MET HERE.

WELL, DON'T TAKE IT THE WRONG WAY, BUT IT WILL MAKE ME FEEL JUST A LITTLE BIT BETTER TO SEE THEM MYSELF. IS THERE THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE THAT YOU CAN GET THEM TO COME HERE?

I MEAN, IT IS A LITTLE BIT WEIRD NOT SEEING ALL OF YOU TOGETHER.



WELL YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO SEE SOME ADDITIONS TO THE GROUP.



THE MORE THE MERRIER HONNEY.



WELL, AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT WE THINK IS THE REASON THEY ARE SO BUSY ALL OF A SUDDEN.



YEAH, I MEAN, WHEN WE THOUGH ABOUT IT IT WAS THE ONLY THING THAT MADE SENSE. THEY ARE BUSY WITH SOMEONE ELSE. AND CAN YOU REALLY BLAME THEM FOR TRYING TO HIDE IT FROM US?



I DIDN'T WANT SAETTO TO MEET YOU GUYS EITHER!



ULTIMATELY, I FEEL A LITTLE BIT WEIRD BECAUSE I AM BEING LEFT OUT FROM ALL OF THIS. THEN AGAIN, I ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE THE CENTER OF IT. I'VE NEVER DATED, AND ANDY ONLY FUCKED. SO I GUESS THAT NOW THAT THE ROLES HAVE SWITCHED, I FEEL THAT I AM ENTITLED TO KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.

SOMETIMES I WONDER IF ALL THOSE TIMES THAT I WAS PUT ON THE SPOT BY YOU GUYS WAS JUST FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT. HOW CRAPPY WOULD THAT BE?

IT FEELS GOOD TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE ON THE SAME PAGE AS I AM.



WAIT A MINUTE... WHY IS IT THAT EVERY TIME THAT WE SIT AROUND HERE, WE END UP SPILLING OUR GUTS OUT?


EVERY SINGLE TIME!



IT'S IN THE COFFEE HUH?


YOU PUT SOME KIND OF DRUG THAT INDUCES US TO START TALKING. SNEAKY!






WELL, IF YOU WOULD LIKE
I CAN ADD SOME
VIAGRA TO THE
BREW TOO!

HAHAHA!
I DON'T THINK THAT
IT WILL BE NECESSARY.



YOU SHOULD
SEE WHEN
HE WAKES
UP IN THE
MORNING!



HONEY BUN, I DON'T THINK THAT
WE NEED TO SHARE THAT.

HEHEHEHE.

ANYWAYS, LIKE I MENTIONED, BOTH OF OUR GIRLS ARE BUSY WITH THEIR CURRENT FLINGS. SO WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE REASON THEY ARE NOT KEEPING IN TOUCH IS BECAUSE THEIR HADS ARE FULL.



ANDY IS FOR SURE IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF IT.



AND MY GUESS IS THAT SO IS IAN. THEY CAN KEEP CELIBATE IN TIMES OF DROUGHT, BUT IN TIMES OF PLENTY, IT'S A DIFFERENT STORY.

AND I DON'T BLAME THEM FOR WETTING THEIR BEAKS.

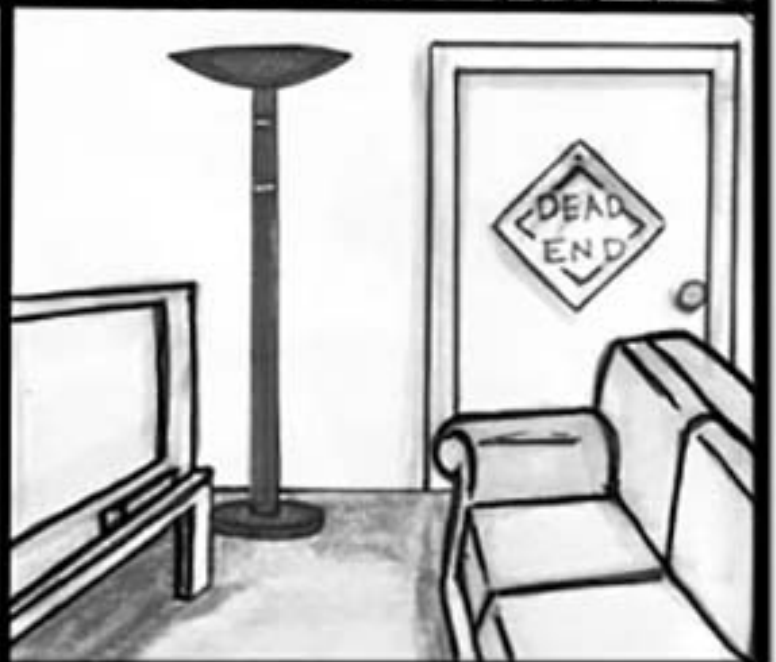


SO TO SPEAK. HEHEHE.



THE ONLY ONE THAT HAS ME WORRIED IS CHRIS. I LIVE WITH HIM AND I HAVE NOT GOTTEN TO SEE HIM A LOT, WHICH IS WEIRD, BECAUSE HE NEVER LEAVES HIS SOFA IN THE AFTERNOON.

I HOPE THAT HE IS JUST BUSY WITH SCHOOL.



IF THAT IS WHAT THE REST
OF THE GANG HAS BEEN UP
TO, WHAT HAVE THE TWO
OF YOU BEEN UP TO?

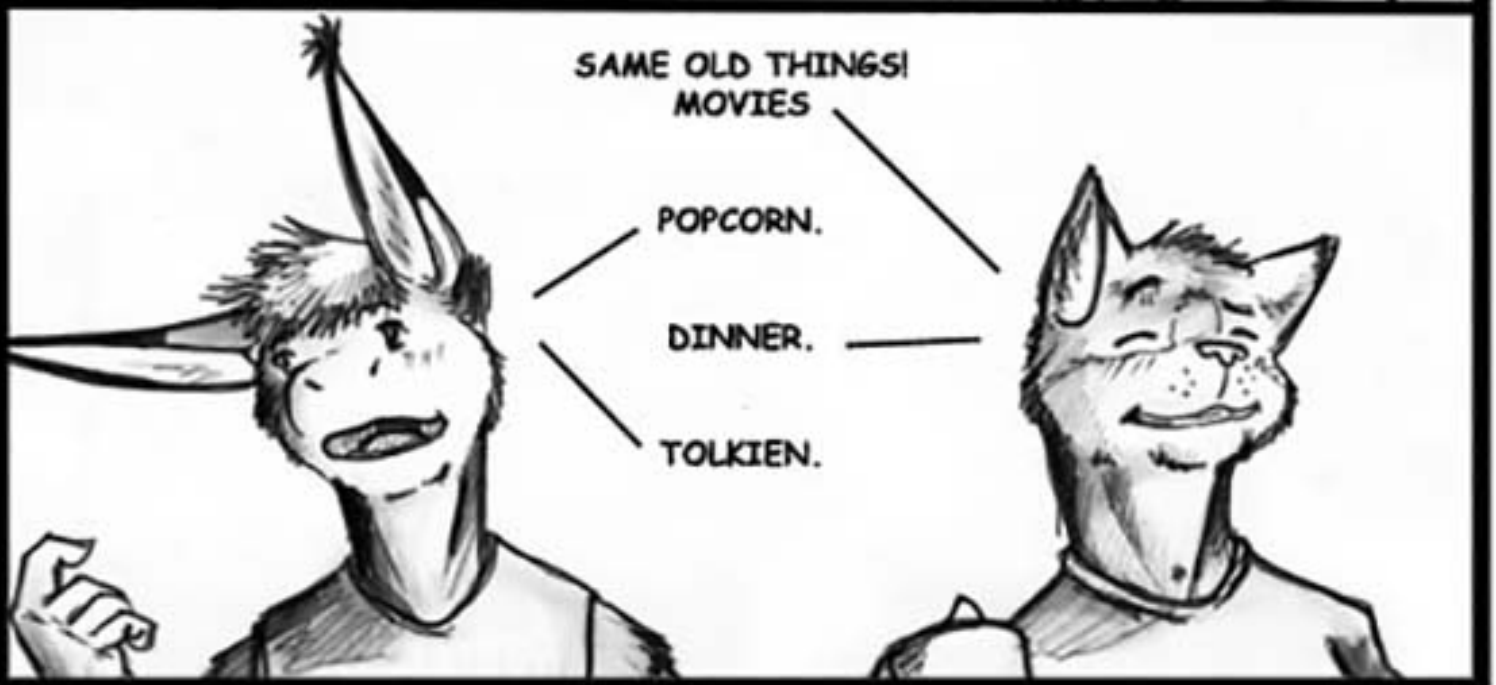


SAME OLD THINGS!
MOVIES

POPCORN.

DINNER.

TOLKIEN.



UH HUH...

I AM SURE
THAT IS
ALL THAT YOU
TWO WERE
UP TO.



HEHEHE, YEAH, IT WAS. FOR A GOOD
TWO HOURS.

IN ANY CASE. I HOPE THAT WE
ALL COME BACK TOGETHER.



YEAH, WE WILL SEE
IF WE CAN GET OUR
LITTLE FAMILY BACK.

INTERESTING
CHOICE OF WORDS.



I THINK YOU ARE COMPLETELY
RIGHT. WE ARE OUR OWN LITTLE
FAMILY.

IN A WEIRD WAY.
I HAD ALWAYS
HEARD THAT US
GAYS SOMETIMES
HAVE TO 'MAKE'
OUR FAMILIES.
SOME BECAUSE
THEY ARE NO
LONGER IN CONTACT
WITH THEIR OWN.



SOME FAMILIES WOULD NOT HAVE US TO BEGIN WITH. SO WE FORM OUR LITTLE CIRCLES, AND WEAVE OUR OWN SUPPORT NET. WE MAKE OUR OWN FAMILIES. AND AT LEAST FOR ME, YOU ARE ALL PART OF IT.



THAT IS WHY I WANT TO SEE US ALL BACK TOGETHER AGAIN.

THIS LITTLE PLACE SEEMED LIKE A HOME BEFORE. AND NOW THAT I OWN IT, IT'S EVEN MORE OF A REASON TO HAVE MY FAMILY IN HERE.



I KNOW THAT I MET ALL OF YOU AS YOUR WAITRESS. BUT AS TIME WENT ON, I GREW MORE AND MORE ATTACHED TO YOUR GUYS.

I LEARNED ALL YOUR SECRETS, AND YOU GUYS GOT TO KNOW ME LITTLE BY LITTLE. I KNOW ALL OF YOUR PAST FLINGS, AND ALL OF YOUR CURRENT GRIEFS. AND I CAN, WITH A LOT OF CONFIDENCE, BET A LOT OF MONEY ON THE FACT THAT WE SEE EACHOTHER A LOT MORE THAN WE ALL SEE OUR BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES.




WE ARE OUR OWN FAMILY. SO PLEASE GET OUR LITTLE FAMILY BACK TOGETHER.








I BROKE UP WITH MY GIRLFRIEND.




OH WOW, I AM REALLY SORRY.
YOUR HIGH SCHOOL SWEETHEART
RIGHT?

YEAH.



WE HAD A FIGHT. AND IT MADE ME REALIZE THAT I REALLY DIDN'T
KNOW HER AS MUCH AS I THOUGHT, OR THAT MAYBE,
OVER THE TIME THAT I HAVE BEEN OUT HERE,
WE HAVE GROWN APPART.

EITHER WAY, IT DIDN'T FEEL LIKE THE
SWEET AND CARING LILA THAT I KNEW.
WE ARGUED OVER THE PHONE A LOT
AND EVENTUALLY SHE BROKE IT OFF.
SHE SAID THAT I HAD BECOME
A SINNER, AND THAT I HAD
CHANGED. THAT I WAS
NO LONGER A GOOD
CHRISTIAN BOY.



THE WEIRD PART IS THAT I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT BEING CHRISTIAN MEANT THAT YOU HAVE TO LOVE EVERYONE. HATE WAS NEVER AN OPTION. NOT ONLY THAT, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT I HAVE CHANGED MUCH.



FROM WHAT YOU TELL ME, IT SEEMS LIKE SHE WAS THE ONE WHO CHANGED. SO FAR AS I CAN TELL, YOU ARE STILL THE SAME OLD MIDWESTERN BOY THAT I MET SO MANY YEARS AGO.



HEHE, I REMEMBER THAT, FIRST YEAR IN SCHOOL HERE IN CALIFORNIA. I HAD A PHOTO OF BUSH IN FRONT OF MY DESK.



TOOK ME SEVEN MONTHS TO TALK YOU INTO PUTTING IT AWAY.

HAHI SO MAYBE MY POLITICAL VIEWS HAVE CHANGED A BIT.



I STILL AM A GOOD CHRISTIAN.



I TRY TO RESPECT AND LOVE EVERYONE. IT JUST STILL HURTS TO KNOW THAT I AM SINGLE. I HAVEN'T BEEN SINGLE IN YEARS. I FEEL LONELY.



THE RUG GOT PULLED FROM UNDER ME. I HAD ALWAYS THOUGH OF SAVING UP ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY A HOUSE AND HAVE HER MOVE OUT HERE WITH ME. AND SINCE THAT DREAM IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN ANYMORE, I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

I FEEL INCOMPLETE. LIKE I JUST LOST MY BETTER HALF.

I DON'T THINK THAT IS TRUE. YOU CAN STILL HAVE YOUR HOUSE AND YOUR COLLEGE DEGREE. YOU WERE NEVER A HALF OF ANYTHING CHRIS. YOU WERE-ARE A WHOLE PERSON. I KNOW WHAT YOU FEEL LIKE, I WENT THROUGH THE SAME THING MORE TIMES THAN I CARE TO REMEMBER.

YEAH, WELL, THIS IS MY FIRST BREAK-UP EVER.

ALL THE MORE REASON WHY YOU FEEL LOST AND ALONE. YOU HAVEN'T YET COME TO THE REALIZATION THAT YOU ARE A COMPLETE PERSON ALL BY YOURSELF, WITHOUT THE NEED FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO FILL YOU IN.





IS IT GOING TO GET BETTER?
HOW LONG AM I GOING TO
KEEP FEELING THIS SHITTY?



A LONG TIME I AM AFRAID.
YOU WILL THINK OF HER EVERY DAY
AND POSSIBLY BREAK INTO TEARS
JUST AS OFTEN. BUT THEN YOU WILL
START TO ONLY DO THAT EVERY OTHER
DAY, THEN EVERY OTHER WEEK.



IT IS A SLOW
PROCESS. BUT I
KNOW YOU WILL BE
FINE.

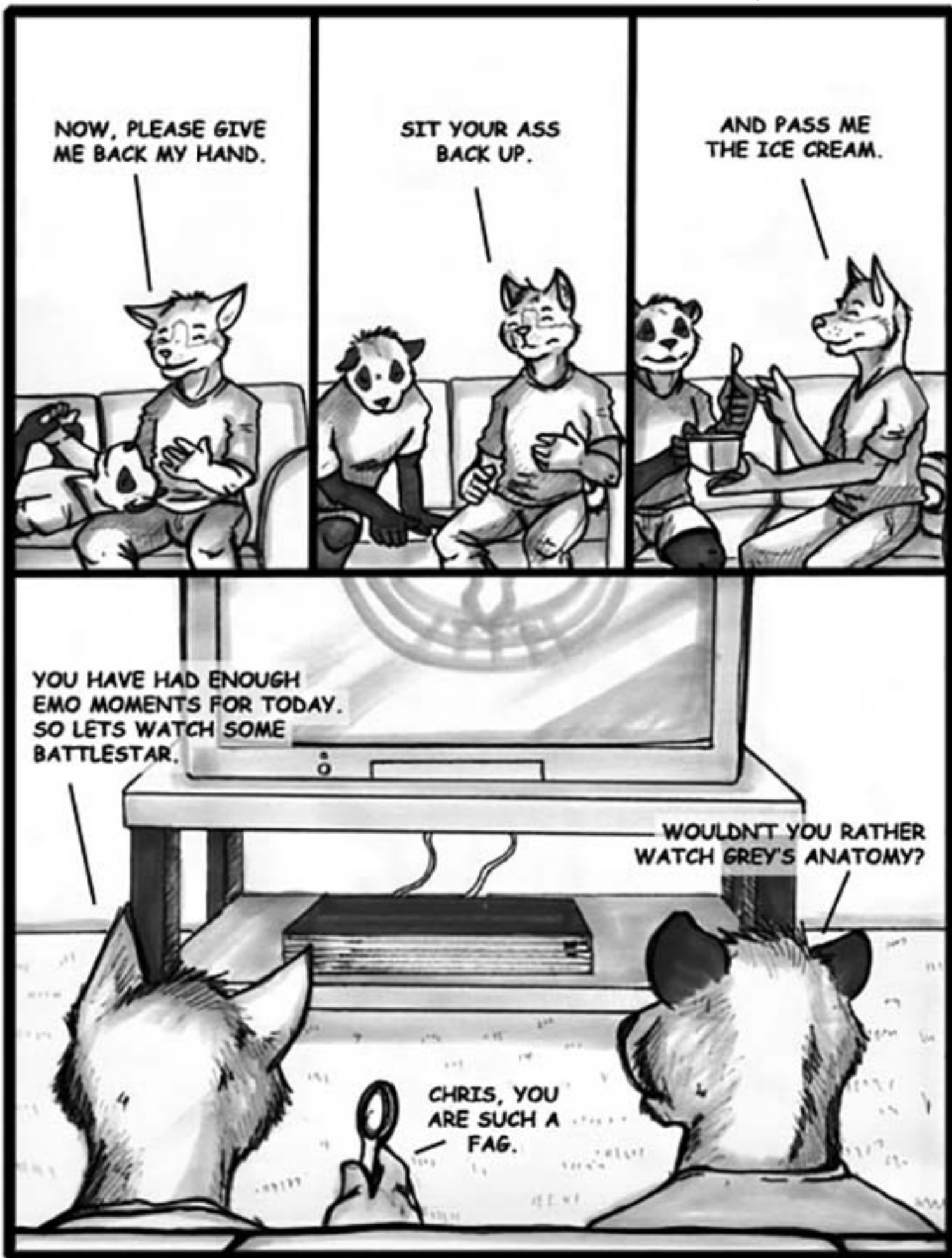


HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT
I WILL EVER BE OK?



BECAUSE YOU ARE AN
AWESOME GUY. AND YOU WILL
EVENTUALLY MEET SOMEONE
ELSE WHO WILL MAKE
YOU FORGET ABOUT YOUR
PAST LOVE.







HEY THERE HANDSOME.



YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN THINKING,
EVERY TIME WE MEET, IT'S HERE,
AT YOUR PLACE. WE HAVE NEVER
REALLY DONE ANYTHING ELSE.



AND DON'T GET ME WRONG,
I LIKE THIS. BUT
MAYBE, DO YOU
WANT TO GO OUT
ON A DATE?
A REAL
DATE?



YOU MEAN LIKE A RESTAURANT?
OR A WALK ON THE BEACH?

WELL, ACTUALLY, YEAH!
THAT WOULD BE
PERFECT.



I WANT TO TAKE YOU TO THE BEST PLACE. SUITS AND EVERYTHING. I BET YOU LOOK REALLY HANDSOME IN A SUIT AND TIE.



THE SAD PART, IS THAT YOU ARE THE FIRST GUY TO EVER ASK ME THAT, AND AS MUCH AS I WOULD LOVE TO, I DONT HAVE A SUIT AND TIE. I BARELY HAVE ANY CLOTHES AT ALL.

THE UNIVERSE HAS A HORRIBLE SENSE OF HUMOR.

WHAT HAPPENED?



I THREW THEM ALL AWAY. IT IS AS SIMPLE AS THAT.

I DIDNT WANT ANY OF MY OLD CLOTHES. THEY REMINDED ME OF SOMETHING THAT I WOULD RATHER FORGET.

DO YOU REMEMBER HOW WE MET? HOW I USED TO STARE AT THE LGBT CENTER? IT WASNT BECAUSE I HAD ANYTHING AGAINST IT, I WAS MAD AT MYSELF. I WAS UPSET THAT I WAS A STEREOTYPE. ALL MY CLOTHES WERE PROOF.



SO, AFTER A COUPLE OF DAYS OF DEPRESSION, I FREAKED AND PUT THEM ALL IN THE TRASH.

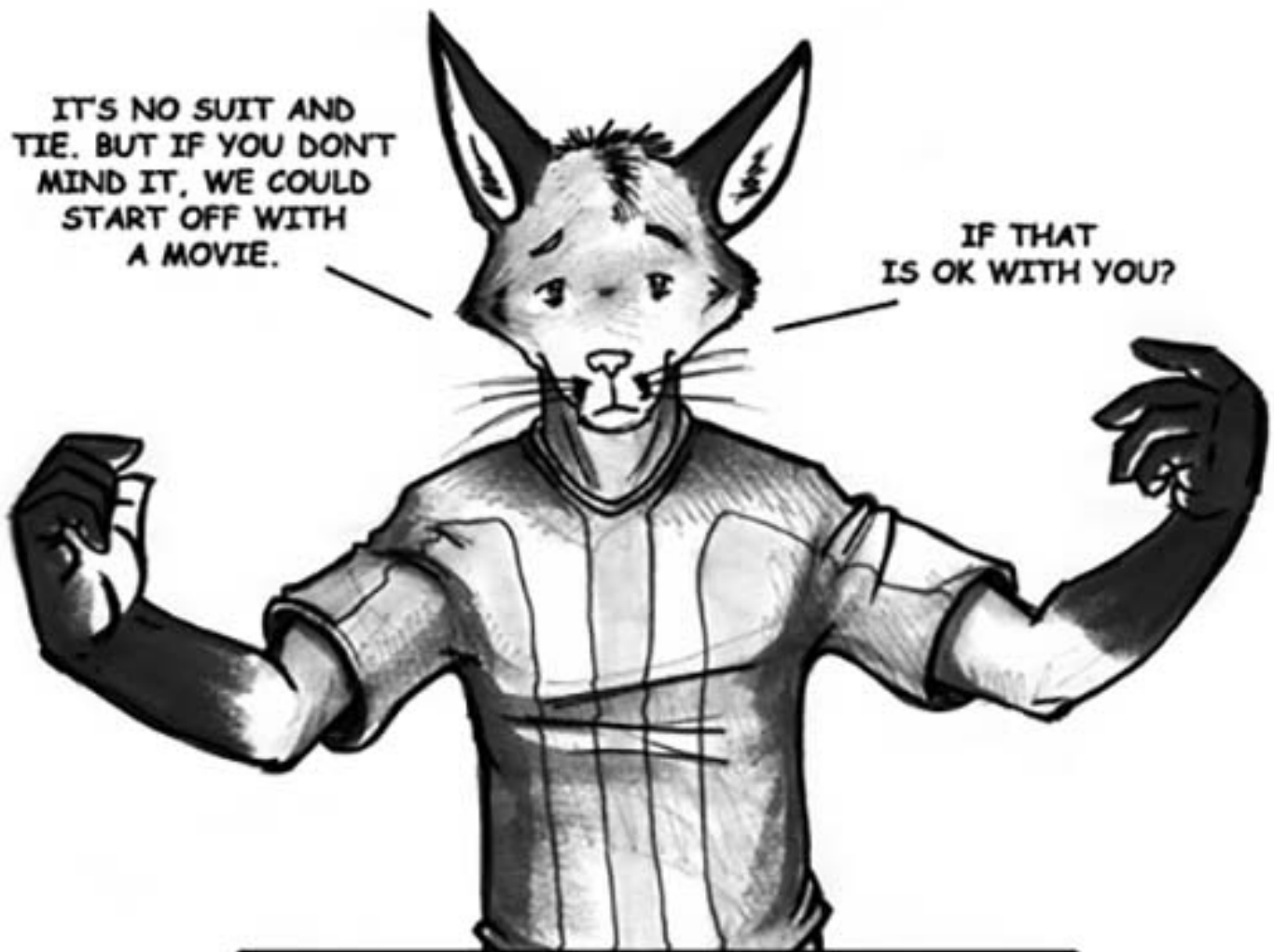


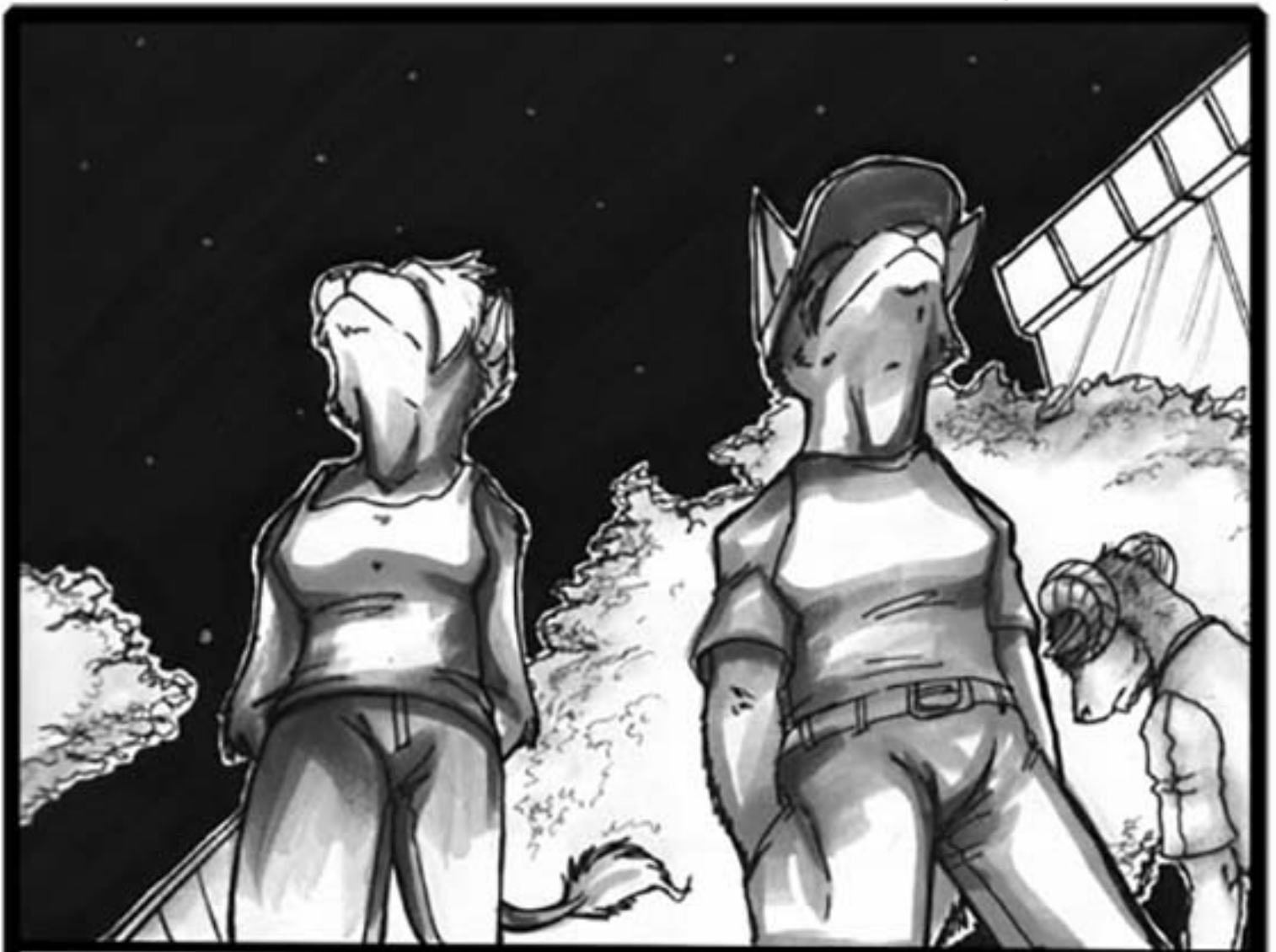




IT'S NO SUIT AND
TIE. BUT IF YOU DONT
MIND IT, WE COULD
START OFF WITH
A MOVIE.

IF THAT
IS OK WITH YOU?







I SOMETIMES FORGET HOW MUCH WE TAKE OUR LITTLE ISLAND FOR GRANTED. WEST HOLLYWOOD SEEMS SO FRIENDLY BY COMPARISON. I DON'T HAVE TO THINK TWICE ABOUT THE LITTLE THINGS, LIKE HOLDING YOUR HAND.



IT'S GOOD TO KNOW THAT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE THAT NOTICED IT.

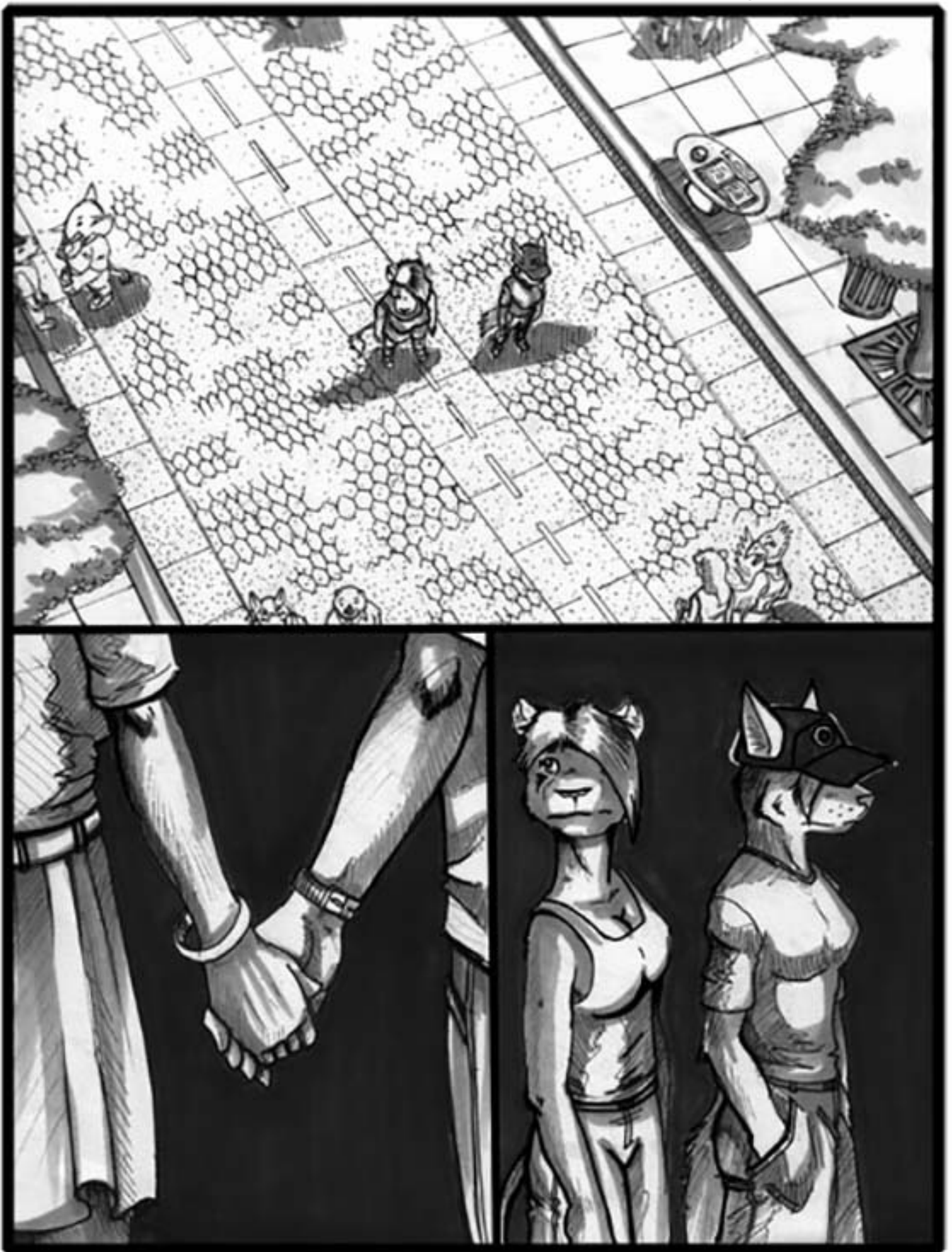


IT FEELS REALLY WEIRD.



AND WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT SUCH A LITTLE GESTURE COULD MAKE SUCH AN IMPACT. IT SERIOUSLY FEELS SO AWKWARD TO WALK RIGHT NEXT TO YOU AND BE SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT WHAT THE PEOPLE AROUND US WILL SAY.





WELL, THIS MIGHT NOT BE 1969, AND THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT NEW YORK, BUT WE CAN HAVE OUR OWN LITTLE PROTEST AGAINST THE WORLD RIGHT HERE.

WHAT IS THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?

DIRTY LOOKS
AND A SNICKER
HERE OR
THERE?

MAYBE AN INSULT?
DYKE?
MUNCHER?
LESBO?

A SHOVE WHEN
WALKING
BY?

SOME PEOPLE WILL
MIND, AND MOST
WILL GET USED TO
IT.

BUT IT'S ALL TOTALLY
WORTH IT, IF IN A
COUPLE OF YEARS, I
WON'T EVEN HAVE
TO THINK TWICE
ABOUT THIS.

I ALREADY
FEEL BETTER.



